Permit loading of goods traffic

*317. SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM :
SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Western and Northern Railways had the practice to permit loading of goods traffic strictly as per the marked carring capacity at a station and yet charge the consignee the freight for over-marked capacity by one tonne for four-wheeler wagon and two tonnes for the eight-wheeler capacity;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof and whether the practice has been abandoned, if so, since when; and

(c) whether the over charges thus surreptitiously collected by the railways were returned to the concerned parties, if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) to (c) Prior to 1- 5-1991, Metre Gauge wagons were permitted to be loaded and charged upto the marked Carrying Capacity plus one tonne in case of four-wheeled wagons and marked Carrying Capacity plus two tonnes in case of eight-wheeled wagons, subject to axle load restrictions. With effect from 1-5-1991, the Rules were amended so as to remove the condition of axle load restriction for the purpose of loading and charging. Over the Western and Northern Railways there were instances after 1-5-1991 where the booking stations restricted loadings only to the extent the axle loads permitted but freight was charged at the destinations as per the revised rule. This was due to differences in the interpretation of the revised rule. By December 1991, the loading and charging as per the revised rules was fully implemented on these two Railways. Decision on requests for refund will depend on the merits and circumstances of each case.

Activities of the Armed Private Organisation

*318. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA :
DR. BAPU KALDATE :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the activities of the Armed Private Army Savarn Mukti Morcha Samaj terrorising dalits, backward classes and other weaker sections in the eastern part of U. P. specially in the areas adjoining Varanasi and Ghazipur districts;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what action has been taken by Government to curb the activities of the organisation and to provide protection to the dalits and other backward classes of the area ?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN) : (a) No, Sir,

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

However, it has come to the notice of the State Government that a Savarn Jati Mukti Morcha has been organised in Pare Village of Varanasi district to prevent occupation of land and atrocities by naxalites and other criminals. The State Governments have issued instructions to the concerned authorities to keep a close watch over the activities of the Savarn Jati Mukti Morcha.

गंगा नदी के किनारे पर बसे हुए नगरों के लोगों को नदी प्रदूषण से अवगत कराना

*319. **चौधरी हरमोहन सिंह** : क्या पर्यावरण और वन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि गंगा नदी के किनारे पर स्थित 33 नगरों में रहने वाले लोगों को नदी से होने वाले प्रदूषण की समस्या के बारे में अवगत करा दिया गया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इन 33 नगरों का ब्यौरा क्या है और वे समस्याएं कौन-सी हैं, जिसके बारे में लोगों को अवगत कराया गया है; और

(ग) गंगा कार्य योजना के अधीन आरम्भ किये गये सफाई कार्यों का ब्यौरा क्या है तथा सफाई का कितना प्रतिशत कार्य पहले ही किया जा चुका है ?

पर्यावरण और वन मंत्रालय में राज्यमंत्री (श्री कमल नाथ) : (क) और (ख) गंगा नदी के प्रदूषण निवारण के बारे में जागरूकता उत्पन्न करने, प्रदूषण नियंत्रण के लिए अपेक्षित उपायों एवं जन-सहयोग के लिए गंगा नदी के किनारे नगरों में कार्यक्रम हाथ में लिए गए थे । नदी में न्यूनिसिपल अपशेष और अनुपचारित बहिःस्राव के निपटान, खुले में शौच बिना जले एवं अधजले शवों के फेंकने, पशुओं को नहलाने आदि से होने वाली समस्याओं से लोगों को अवगत कराया गया था । ऐसे कार्यों में शामिल किए गए नगरों के नाम विवरण-I में दिए गए हैं (सीधे देखिये) जो सदन के पटल पर रखा गया है । प्रदूषण निवारण के लिए हाथ में लिए गए विभिन्न प्रकार के कार्यों की राज्य-वार संख्या विवरण-II में दी